THE FARMING WORLD.

IT DESTROYS VINES.

Habits of the Grape Vine Flea Beetle—How to Fight It.

The grape vine flea beetle is an exceedingly destructive insect. Like most insects it has a ravenous appetite, and although only some three-twentieths of an inch in length, it will devour a bud containing three or four bunches of grapes at a meal. If there are many of them, therefore, an entire crop of grapes may be doomed. In the following cut a leaf partly eaten by the worms is represented, while at the

GRAPE VINE FLEA BEETLE.

lower right-hand corner is a representation of the beetle and at the upper left-hand corner is the larvæ.

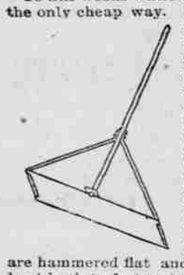
The beetles that appear in early spring are those that have hibernated in the rubbish and decayed leaves at the base of the grape vines, or in their immediate neighborhood. After they have fed awhile on the expanding buds, and as soon as the leaves of the grapes begin to form, they deposit their eggs on the leaves, and in time these hatch into small black larvæ with six feet, which begin to feed on the foliage, riddling and devouring it very much in the early period of its growth. The larvæ are usually quite numerous, and continue feeding on the vine for some weeks. When they attain their full growth, they descend to the ground and enter the chrysalis state, where they remain till the autumn, when the beetles escape from the chrysalis and hibernate in rubbish and among the dead leaves.

Keep the neighborhood of the vines as free as possible from rubbish, and we have found nothing better for application than white hellebore. It will need to be applied several times. Holding cotton sheeting, that has been saturated with kerosene oil, underneath, and jarring the vine, has been recommended. The kerosene kills the worms.—Farmers' Voice.

FOR KILLING WEEDS.

A Scuffle Hoe Is the Best Implement That Can Be Used.

To kill weeds while they are small is the only cheap way. For rapid hand work on soil with a mellow surface no tool equals the home-made scuffle hoe. A strip of iron cask hoop 2½ feet long and 1½ to 2 inches wide and an old wooden rake handle are the essentials. Twelve inches of the center of this hoop are hammered flat and the end pieces bent back to fasten to the rake handle like braces. The hoop iron is easily punched and light rivets are put through the handle by using a gimlet. The handle extends to rest on the upper edge of the 12-inch blade, where it is fastened by a short piece of lighter hoop iron passing over it and riveted to the blade. The flare of the blade helps to keep it clear of weeds and earth. If the surface be baked the edge of the tool should be filed or ground sharp. It is also an excellent pulverizer for the surface soil to prevent the bad effects of drought.—L. J. Simpson, in Farm and Home.



Hard Roads in Illinois.

The Illinois house committee on roads and bridges have reported that in its opinion there are but two legal and practicable plans for the construction of hard roads in Illinois, both founded on the principle of local option, to wit: First, roads to be built by counties on a general tax on all property in the county. Second, roads to be built by townships on general tax on all the property in the township. All other schemes, looking to state control or a state commission, and the establishment of a uniform system of hard roads, are considered either unfair to a large class of taxpayers, impracticable by reason of the provisions of the constitution, or in violation thereof.

Cleanliness in the Dairy.

Observe the strictest cleanliness before you ever draw your milk to the factory; have arrangements and preparations made for the thorough straining and handling of your milk in the most careful and cleanly manner, and no patron would allow anything to go from his premises to the factory that he would not place upon his own table. There is quite as much dishonesty in allowing improper or filthy milk to go to the factory as in allowing some member of the family to skim it before it goes.

Benefits of Good Roads.

In times of peace good roads are no less important; the general condition of country roads is a very good index of the civilization and prosperity of the community. It is not difficult to show by mathematical deduction that money expended in constructing good roads is economy from a financial standpoint, while from a social standpoint the benefits are incalculable.—Brig. Gen. D. K. Stanley, U. S. A., in Memorial to Congress on Road Exhibit at World's Columbian Exposition.

Caring for Fruit Trees.

It is not the economical and intelligent fruit-grower who props the limbs of his trees when the trees are overloaded with fruit. The proper plan is to thin out the fruit, and it should be done while the fruit is small. When a tree bends with the great weight of extra fruit it is compelled to do extra duty in supplying food, while the fruit will not be as good as when but a partial crop is borne on the tree. Thinning the fruit gives more attractive fruit and better prices.

WHERE it is desired to secure as large a number of turkey eggs as possible, it is nearly always best to put the first layings under common hens.

THE ROAD MOVEMENT.

Views of the Kansas Consul of the League of American Wheelmen.

Print and paper are wasted in sending good roads literature to cyclists, who are already converted; the farmer should receive it instead. Ours is purely an agricultural state. The farming class is the chief repository of power, and is quite aware of the fact. For years almost without number its members have been accustomed to witness the formal ceremony of "working" the roads; most of them have never seen an improved highway; they are quite reconciled to the present crude and wasteful system. And just now a fit of economy is on. Hatred of railroads, of money loaners, is voiced by thousands; the words "bonds" and taxes are in ill repute. There is only one way to obtain the money necessary to improve the highways, and that is by pledging the public credit, which involves the use of both bonds and taxes. It may be guessed that any plan calling for these would hardly receive the support of the farmer element, a majority of which is at present violently discussing political questions—the iniquity of capitalists, the danger of monopoly, their own oppressed condition—without perceiving the immense importance of the practical question that is at their gates.

So, for the present, the movement is blocked. Tho agitation will be kept up, converts will be made, and I trust that two years hence some good bill will pass. The farmer means well and wants to do right; he can be persuaded, but not driven; it must be our task to show him that our prosperity is largely dependent on good roads. To this end we are not only willing, but eager to combine with all classes of citizens. We want county and state organization, the most earnest agitation, the most thorough discussion of the subject. If our present plans do not miscarry we can promise this.—Henry E. Harris, in Referee.

PORTABLE PLANT SHELTER.

An Excellent Way of Forcing and Protecting Young Plants.

A cheap and effective device for forcing and protecting young plants is shown in the accompanying engravings from sketches by J. H. Ladd, of Nova Scotia. Two triangular boards, of the shape seen in Fig. 1, have deep grooves sawed in them, as indicated by the dotted lines. Two panes of glass, of any desired size, are fitted endwise into grooves in the two boards, and all is fastened together by nailing to the boards three strips of lath, as shown in Fig. 2. A small hole is bored in each end board, for ventilation. These may be plugged in the colder weather. These portable plant shelters not only

FIG. 1.—SIDE BOARD.

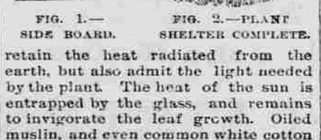


FIG. 2.—PLANT SHELTER COMPLETE.

retain the heat radiated from the earth, but also admit the light needed by the plant. The heat of the sun is entrapped by the glass, and remains to invigorate the leaf growth. Oiled muslin, and even common white cotton cloth, may be substituted for the glass, in some cases. The shelters should be collected and carefully stored away for future use, as, with proper care, they will last many years. Their use in the protection of early plants will often many times repay their cost and make the crop certain.—American Agriculturist.

WEIGHING MILK.

A Practice Equal in Value to a Whole Library of Dairy Books.

For years I have weighed the milk of every cow at every milking, says a dairyman. A spring balance hangs on the platform behind the cows, and as a cow is milked the pail is hung on the scale and the weight noted; the pails weigh two and a half pounds each, and this is deducted and the weight of the milk is marked on a paper block which hangs on the wall with a pencil hanging by a string near it. Each cow has a number and under this is marked the column of weights of milk. Each week, on Saturday evening, the sheet is taken to the dairy room and filed away, after having been copied in the milk book in which every cow has a page. Thus at a glance may be seen precisely what each cow is doing and if any unusual change occurs in the yield the cause for it is sought for. This is equal in value to a whole library of dairy books. It tells exactly the value of different feeds; the injury from a storm; the effect of a cold, the result of any disturbance of a cow, or a change of milker; and one cannot fail to make inquiry or take notice in regard to any falling off or increase in milk, because it is brought so close to his attention.

The Value of Clover Hay.

Clover hay, when it is well made, is the best hay known for general feeding purposes, and some clover hay enthusiasts claim that a ton of it mixed with a ton of straw is equal to two tons of timothy, which is pretty near correct. It is especially good for young and growing animals on account of the nitrogen which it contains, as it requires a large amount of nitrogen for the making of muscle and flesh. The manure obtained from animals by feeding a ton of clover hay is worth about $9, whereas that from a ton of straw is only worth above $3, according to the valuation of the different fertilizers present in it.—Western Rural.

Use for Rough Land.

There is rough land on almost all our farms where it would pay better to plant nuts, both for timber and for the nuts for market than anything else. A large farm with these trees set on the roadside, perhaps thirty feet from the center of the road and twenty-five feet apart, would sell enough nuts annually to pay the taxes and leave a surplus for each picker sufficient to pay for the picking. Just why farmers should neglect to properly care for such trees and suffer loss thereby is strange.

Value of Good Roads.

When the frost comes out of the ground and the wheels sink down to the hubs in the mire travel becomes a costly luxury, and when the rough roads are covered with snow and the melting snow is next mixed with the previous slush, the farmer is almost mud-bound. At this season the fact needs no allusion, but it is not out of place to ask if the cost of good roads are to be feared in the face of the obstacles met with every winter.

THE HIGHEST HOUSE.

An Observatory to Be Erected on the Top of Mont Blanc.

M. Janssen, a distinguished French astronomer, is superintending the construction of an observatory at the top of the highest peak of Mont Blanc. The building was first set up at Meudon to make sure that it was perfect, and last spring it was taken apart, the pieces

THE HIGHEST HOUSE IN THE WORLD: THE MONT BLANC OBSERVATORY.

were carefully numbered and the material for the new observatory was carried up to the top of Mont Blanc on the backs of porters. Not all the material yet has reached the final stage, but some of it is 15,000 feet above the sea level and the rest 10,000 feet. Work was suspended, of course, at the beginning of winter, but it will begin again in the spring, and if all goes well the observatory will be finished by October of this year. The cut shows the present stage of construction.

There are some queer things about this observatory aside from its elevation. Its dome will be made of aluminium, and its promoter, besides being seventy years old, is a cripple and has to be dragged up the mountain in a chair of his own invention. Consequently the journeys are accomplished at considerable personal risk to the astronomer. M. Janssen was one of those who escaped from Paris in a balloon during the siege. In his exciting aerial trip, which ended by the seashore near Nantes, he carried with him, carefully packed, a great telescope which he had had specially constructed for him.—Harper's Young People.

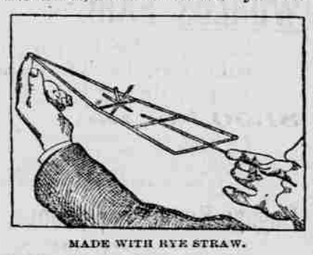
MILL FROM ONE STRAW.

A Man Who Can Make One in a Quarter of an Hour.

Straw has been used over and over again to play with. It has been plaited, twisted, woven, made into mats and pin-cushions, until it seemed as though nothing else could be done with it. But here is a worthy man with a mill made out of one rye-straw such as no one ever thought of before. We have had the prisoner who made a watch completely out of many straws; but who ever before thought of making a machine, however humble, out of a single straw?

He takes a rye stem, and from the bottom cuts off eight inches for his blowpipe. He then cuts off from the same end seven inches. This piece he cuts in half, and then proceeds to split and twist these so as to get the wheel.

He then cuts off a yard of the remaining stem, and folds it so as to obtain the isosceles triangle with a base of five inches, and this he closes by thrust-



MADE WITH RYE STRAW.

ing one end into the other for a depth of an inch. The two cross-pieces he takes out of the remainder of the straw and fits them in through slits; and on one of them he hangs his wheel. He then makes a slit in the base of his triangle, and in the first cross-bar, and slips in his blow-pipe; and then, proceeding to blow, he "merrily drives the wheel."

It will be remarked that from beginning to end he does all his work with the straw; he uses neither pin, nor card, nor thread, nor glue. His only tool is a sharp penknife, and he completes his task and gets the wheel on the spin within a quarter of an hour.

Perhaps our readers would like to copy him. Seven or eight boys, standing in a line, each with a mill in his mouth, all with cheeks puffed out, and waiting for the word to blow, would be a sight worth seeing.—Golden Days.

One Thing More.

Nothing promises so well for a student's ultimate success as a disposition to probe every subject to the bottom.

A lady passenger on board a Maine steamboat engaged the engineer in conversation, says the Lewiston Journal. He was very polite and attentive, feeling a little flattered, it may be, that a person so impressive in her manners should have come to him for information. One by one he answered all her questions—just where the steam went into the cylinder, where it escaped and how it was that the piston rod attached to the crank turned the wheels that propelled the vessel through the water.

She listened intently, and when he concluded she turned upon him a beaming face and said:

"Now, what is the object of the boiler?"

Future Vengeance.

"You'll be sorry for this some day!" howled the son and heir as his father released him from the position he had occupied across the paternal knee.

"I'll be sorry? When?"

"When I get to be a man!"

"You will take revenge by whipping your father when you are big and strong and I am old and feeble, will you, Tommy?"

"No, sir," blubbered Tommy, rubbing himself, "but I'll spank your grandchildren till they can't rest."—Chicago Tribune.

Unseasonable.

"Here, my poor man," said Mrs. Skidmore to the tramp, "is a piece of pie for you."

"Thank you, madam," replied Weary Watkins. "I cannot eat it now, however. Would you mind putting it away for me till this evening, when I will call with a dress suit on? I never eat pie except at dinner."—Judge.

THE ENGLISH PREMIER.

William Ewart Gladstone, His Home and His Family.

All the world knows of Mr. Gladstone, premier of England, who has just passed his eighty-third year, having been born in Liverpool, December 29, 1809. Mr. Gladstone is called by his friends and admirers the "Grand Old Man," and he has fairly won his title in many ways. He was sent to the famous school of Eton when a boy, and graduated in 1831 at Christ church, Oxford, taking a double first-class, which means that he

MR. GLADSTONE AND ONE OF HIS GRANDCHILDREN.

took the highest honors both in classics and mathematics.

Rt. Hon. William Ewart Gladstone, M. P., P. C., to give him his full name and titles, is the fourth son of the late Sir John Gladstone. In 1834, when only twenty-five years old, Mr. Gladstone entered parliament, ever since which he has been a member of the house of commons. He was made prime minister in 1868, and remained in power six years. Last summer he took the office for the fourth time, and now the sturdy old man of eighty-three is at the head of England's cabinet.

Mr. Gladstone lives in Hawarden castle, which means "the hill fort on the projecting ridge." That at least was the meaning of the original British name, Y Garthddin, which in Saxon became Haordine, and in Welsh, Penarlag. But there are two castles of that name, and Mr. Gladstone occupies the modern one, which is only a hundred and forty years old at the most. The old and new, however, face each other—one, a massive ruin occupied by bats and owls and memories of the past, and the other the residence of England's premier. William the Conqueror, when he came to England, found the old castle occupied by Edwin of Mercia, and its history goes back to the first or second Edward. Mr. Gladstone, however, does not keep this historical ruin to himself, but admits anybody to the park. He only requests visitors, says a writer, to keep to the gravel walks, and refrain from writing their names on the walls of the old castle.

When relieved from the affairs of state, Mr. Gladstone finds no pleasure so great as his home life at Hawarden. There his family are gathered together, and the great man romps and plays with his grandchildren as though he never knew what it was to be blamed for everything that went wrong in all Great Britain and her colonies. Mr. Gladstone is a wonderful scholar, a busy writer and speaker, but the little Gladstone children know him best as a good, kind-hearted grandfather who is fond of fun. He, too, would prefer to enjoy their company rather than to be surrounded by England's great men at an all-night session of parliament. His other recreations are walking, and—this is really very funny—chopping down trees. Our great George Washington, according to tradition, had a like fondness in his youth, but by the time he became president he had probably outgrown such fancies. Mr. Gladstone, however, is an expert woodman, and though he doesn't destroy valuable cherry trees, he goes out with his ax and takes the keenest pleasure in felling trees in Hawarden park. A visitor to his castle one day noticed an ax behind the door in the great hall, where it had been left by the statesman after one of his chopping expeditions. A curious ornament for such a place it seems. It may be out of compliment to the boy George Washington and his hatchet that the "Grand Old Man" prefers to use an American ax.

There are few men that have such a memory as that which Mr. Gladstone is said to possess. It has been stated that he can go at once to his library, and amid the 10,000 books there find in a moment the volume he desires. As for quotations from the classics, he knows just where they are to be found, and any number of other wonderful things are related of him.

It is a truly great thing to be a scholar of this advanced age, it is fame to be a premier of England, and pleasant to be the "Grand Old Man" of his country. But far more impressive do these honors seem when we think of him as a loving man and father, and see him with his little grandchildren on his knee.—Harpers' Young People.

A Husband's Diary.

Wife (addressing her husband, who is busy writing at his desk)—What are you writing there, dear?

"I am working away at my memoirs."

"Ah! but you have not forgotten to mention your little wifey, have you?"

"Oh, dear, no! I have represented you as the sun of my life, and am just now giving a description of those days on which you have made it particularly hot for me."—Fliegende Blaetter.

Hit His Soft Spot.

Magistrate O'Googhan — Hov'n't you been befar me befar?

Astute Prisoner—No, y'r honor, I never saw but one face that looked like yours, an' that was a photograph of an Irish king.

Magistrate O'Googhan — Discharged! Call th' nixt case.—N. Y. Weekly.

As Happy as He Could Afford.

"Mr. Addem," said a Broadway merchant to his sad-faced bookkeeper, "I wish you would try and look a little more cheerful."

"I think," replied the bookkeeper, swallowing a big lump, "that for nine dollars a week I'm awfully jolly."—Texas Siftings.

The Height of Style.

Mamma—What are you doing, pet?

Little Dot—I'm writin' invitations for my dollie, invitin' other dolls to her party.

Mamma (looking them over)—Very nicely written. But what is this black cross at the bottom?

Little Dot—That's dollie's mark.—Good News.

THE COFFEE TAX.

Damaging Effects of a High Tariff on Our Export Trade.

The effect of the imposition of a discriminating duty upon coffee imported from certain countries under the provisions of the so-called reciprocity clauses of the McKinley tariff, is indicated, so far as the quantity imported is concerned, by the treasury department report as to the imports for the seven months ending on January 31. The quantity of coffee brought into this country in the fiscal year 1891, all of it free of duty, was about 520,000,000 pounds. About one-sixth of this came from Venezuela, Colombia and Haiti, the three countries affected by the three cents a pound imposed by President Harrison under the provisions of the law. The official figures for the fiscal year 1891 are as follows:

IMPORTS OF COFFEE.

	Pounds.	*Value.*
From all countries	519,528,432	$96,123,777
From Venezuela	60,217,980	10,814,874
From Colombia	14,549,168	2,491,811
From Haiti	12,642,544	1,988,945
	87,409,692	$15,295,628

It will be seen that the monthly average in that year for the three countries affected was nearly 7,300,000 pounds.

The report shows that for the seven months ending on January 31 this average has fallen to a little more than 2,000,000 pounds.

	Pounds.	*Value.*
Coffee, dutiable, seven months	14,495,178	$2,476,598
January	835,845	149,991

The figures for January indicate that the imports are now very small, the value for that month having been less than $150,000. This is the effect of the exaction of a duty of 3 cents, so far as the quantity received from these countries is concerned.

The imposition of this duty has also had the effect, we are informed, of increasing by several millions of dollars annually the cost of coffee to consumers in this country. The duty has increased the cost of the mild coffees produced in these three countries, which were formerly about one-sixth of our entire supply, and has largely decreased the quantity imported. At the same time, because of this increase of cost, the producers of mild coffees in other countries not affected by the duty have been enabled to exact higher prices for their product when sold here. It is estimated that for this reason the cost of coffees of similar grades produced elsewhere has been increased to the American consumer by at least 1¾ cents a pound. By his reciprocity proclamation Mr. Harrison thus imposed a considerable tax upon the people of the United States, not only with respect to the coffees imported from the three countries directly affected, but also with respect to a large quantity of the coffees that are on the free list.

The law says that after such retaliatory duties have been imposed by the president they are to be exacted "for such time as he shall deem just." The president who imposed these duties has been succeeded by Mr. Cleveland, and it is Mr. Cleveland whose opinion as to the justice of the continued exaction of this tax is now to be conclusive. The fact that he has called upon the state department for information as to the condition of negotiations with the three countries affected shows that he has this question under consideration. If it shall appear that the retaliatory duty on coffee has had no beneficial effect upon our export trade and is a burden upon the people, the justice of it will not be clearly established.—N. Y. Times.

MAKERS OF THE TARIFF.

A Little Light on the Old Jobbing Methods of the Republicans.

Theoretically congress made the tariffs. But it has been a good many years since congress did anything more than to ratify what men not in congress wanted the tariff to be. Congress quit making its own tariffs in 1857, and it has jobbed the business out pretty nearly ever since. It did undertake the work in 1872, when it passed what was known as the little tariff bill; but it did it so bunglingly that it actually reduced the taxes, and the other fellows took it out of the hands of congress and restored the rates in 1875, and have been running the business ever since. To be sure, in 1882 congress felt that something must be done to appease the people, who had begun to growl a little; and so, not being competent to do the job themselves, they let President Arthur appoint a commission to fix up the schedules for them.

This commission was almost wholly composed of men who had been making tariffs for congress, but they thought the taxes could be cut down 25 per cent. without hurting anybody, and so reported. But the other fellows rallied to the defense of their job, and when the commission's bill came out of all the committees it had to go through, including the final conference committee, the rates were higher than ever.

Then came the bill that William McKinley is popularly supposed to have made. It bears his name, and he had to stand all the kicking it caused, and he was plucky enough to take it all and not complain a bit, although he knew that he was as innocent of its provisions as was Ben Harrison. Everybody who knows enough to read now knows that it wasn't McKinley or his committee who made his bill, but it was the same old job lot of fellows who have been making tariffs for the republican party for over thirty years who made it. Mr. Glassman told the commutee just what the tariff should be on glassware, and the committee wrote it out and put it in the bill. And Mr. Wool came and told them how much he wanted the tax to be on wool; and his relative, Mr. Woolens, followed on his heels and said what he wanted cloth to be taxed. And so the procession went on down through all the schedules, and if anybody wanted anything taxed all he had to do was to tell the committee how much it should be and it was done. And about all that the committee did was to say that n. o. p., which means all other articles not otherwise provided for should pay an ad valorem tax of forty-five per cent. That is the way in which these tariff bills have been made since the blessed year of our Lord 1681.

It took the people of the country a long time to find this out. It was not done openly until within recent years. Men used to think that it would look bad if people interested in having heavy taxes laid on foreign goods should be known to be deciding how much those taxes should be; even the manufacturers felt shame-faced about it. But a vice becomes a virtue if you look at it too long, and of late years the committees have given notice when they would sit, and have asked all who wanted the taxes fixed to come and tell them what they wanted. Then the people came to understand at last how their taxes were made, and they rose and smote these modern Philistines hip and thigh, and drove them and their president and senators and representatives out, and put in a new lot of men to make their tariffs.—St. Paul Globe.

TARIFF REFORM AND TRUSTS.

The Outlook for Combines Is Anything But Encouraging.

In the Chicago Tribune we find in one column a vigorous denunciation of "the diabolical trust combines," and in another this paragraph:

"Within the last few weeks there has been a decline of thirty-eight cents on the dollar in sugar stocks, thirty-five in whisky, fifteen in lead and cordage, and a rather extensive break in some other trust stocks. The question is asked: What is to become of the so-called industrials? The people who have money to invest speculatively have lost confidence in them, and the bankers look askance when asked to loan money on those stocks as security, even at reduced prices. This in face of reports, true or false, that profits continue large, and the rate of income obtained from the stock is generally supposed to be a pretty good indication of its selling value in the market. It must be that there is a widespread fear of competition by outside concerns attracted by the reported profits, or an idea that legislation will at no distant day render it impossible to keep up their nefarious organizations, or both. Probably the latter consideration is the most effective."

"Within the last few weeks" covers the period of the inauguration of President Cleveland. Within that time the reorganization of the government has proceeded in a manner satisfactory to the people. The appointment of Messrs. Carlisle, Gresham and Morton, all ardent and well-informed tariff reformers, indicates that a new spirit is to dominate all the departments.

Tariff reform is not a measure which can stand by itself; to it must be joined economy in public expenditures, opposition to paternalism, with a vigorous and intelligent, an honorable and self-reliant public policy, which is the best possible assurance of peace and prosperity.

Naturally the outlook for trusts and combines is anything but encouraging. A trust is formed to limit domestic competition, but what is the sense of limiting domestic competition when a reduction of the tariff will increase foreign competition?

Trusts flourish most when the law, the tariff law, shuts out all foreign interlopers. "Protected" on that side, the monopolists organize a trust to control competition and advance prices at home.

These so-called industrial stocks are in fact trust stocks, stocks in companies having monopolies more or less complete. The assurance that the democratic party intends to reform the tariff not a little bit here, and a little bit elsewhere, but to reform it altogether, naturally does more to depress the price of trust stocks than a dozen anti-trust bills like that drawn by Senator Sherman.

The decline in the price of trust stocks marks the advance in the prosperity of the people.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

CLEVELAND'S ECONOMY.

The Good Work of Reform Is Going Steadily On.

Mr. Cleveland's policy of ridding the government of unnecessary officeholders is one which cannot be too highly commended. The expense of pensions is so heavy that without the strictest economy it will be impossible to make an adequate reduction of the tariff, and every hundred dollars now saved by retrenchment in executive expenses is so much gained to the people in possibilities of tax reduction.

It is appropriate that the work of reform should have been begun in the department of agriculture, as it is there that the largest sums of money have been spent in salaries without corresponding benefit to the people. Secretary Morton has made a good beginning, and he is likely to keep on until he has relieved the people of the alleged experts and scientists whose greatest industry is shown in trying not to work themselves out of their jobs.

But the department of agriculture is far from being the only one in which retrenchment will be beneficial. Secretary Carlisle has already begun the good work in the treasury department, and it will no doubt be pushed in the departments of war, of the navy, of the interior and of justice. The employes of the post office department probably do more work for their money than those of any other, yet even in the post office department it is possible to retrench with advantage.

It is not likely that when Mr. Cleveland has made a closer investigation he will confine retrenchment to the government employes in Washington city. In New York, in Boston, in Philadelphia, in Chicago, in St. Louis, in every other large city, it will be possible to find men who can be spared from the federal service to its distinct advantage, even if their places are left vacant until the treasury is in better condition to afford liberal expenditure.

Under such a policy as that Mr. Cleveland has inaugurated the restriction of expenditures to the necessities of government economically administered will cease to be a mere platitude and will come to be a vitalizing force in the conduct of public affairs. It is hard to see how Mr. Cleveland could do anything more calculated to make public office in reality a public trust than what he is doing now. Let the work go on until every department has been rid of its barnacles and professional bureaucrats.—St. Louis Republic.

OPINIONS AND POINTERS.

——When President Cleveland fixes upon a person who is in all respects what Raum was not, the right man for commissioner of pensions will have been found.—Detroit Free Press.

——Since Secretary Carlisle took hold the financial anxiety which pervaded the country has been relieved. The people have unbounded confidence in the genuine article of statesmanship.—Detroit Free Press.

——It will be recalled that the Harrison administration made a specialty of rewarding its personal friends and punishing all who happened to disagree with it. That course did not save it.—N. Y. World.

——After all it is the policy and the ideas of the republican party and not its leaders that render its prospects hopeless. The organization must have a new birth and new inspirations. It has run its course on the old lines.—N. Y. World.

——Republicans feel that their party has outlived its usefulness and that it ought to die, but they have a touchingly pathetic faith that, unworthy as they feel the party to be, the democrats will do something to make its restoration to power inevitable.—St. Louis Republic.

HOUSEHOLD BREVITIES.

—Ginger Cakes.—Two cups molasses; two eggs; one cup lard; one teaspoon ginger; one tablespoon soda, leveled off; a pinch of salt and flour enough to roll well.—Detroit Free Press.

—Gluten Crackers.—These are tempting, served with a bowl of broth, on the waiter of an invalid. To one-half cup of cream add a half-teaspoonful of salt and enough gluten flour to make a stiff dough; mix with knife, roll out as thin as possible, cut in biscuit shape, prick with fork and bake in moderate oven.—N. Y. Observer.

—Egg Soup.—To one quart of boiling water, add a lump of butter the size of an egg rolled in flour, one cup of sweet cream, salt and pepper to taste. Beat three eggs until yolks and whites are slightly broken, stir into boiling mixture, let stand a moment and serve. To be eaten with bits of bread fried brown in butter.—Home.

—Good Plain Cake.—Cream together half a cupful of butter and two of sugar; add the beaten yolks of three eggs, half a cupful of milk and three of cupsfuls of flour, into which has been sifted three teaspoonfuls of baking powder, and, lastly, the whites of the eggs, beaten until light and frothy; stir briskly, pour into buttered pan and bake in moderate oven.—Boston Herald.

—In the dress hodge-podge which is the fashion of the moment, all styles being the styles, it is painful to notice symptoms of a return to the earring. A pretty ear is a thousand times prettier unmarred by the cruel puncture and unburdened with the disfiguring pendant, while a homely, ill-shaped ear is only accentuated and brought to notice by a glint of gold and a flash of jewel. Pass the earring by, along with other relics of barbarism, mesdames, and display your gems in other ways.—N. Y. Times.

—Lady Cake.—Beat one-quarter pound of butter to a cream and add gradually one and one-half cups of granulated sugar. Mix and add slowly, beating all the while, one cup of lukewarm water, then measure two and one-half cups of sifted flour. Add one-half of this to the butter, beat vigorously. Beat the whites of four eggs to a stiff froth, add half of this to a batter. Mix, stir in the remaining half of the flour, beat again. Add the juice and the grated yellow rind of one lemon, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and the remaining half of the whites of the eggs; bake in a moderately quick oven for three-quarters of an hour.—Boston Budget.

—Chicken Jelly.—One old fowl, two quarts of cold water, celery, salt. Cut the chicken in pieces and put in water with the salt; simmer till the scum rises; skim, add the celery, and boil slowly but steadily till tender, when the liquid should be reduced one-half. Strain, set away over night and in the morning remove the fat. Heat the consomme, season and pour into molds; or the juice and and pared rind of one lemon, with the partially beaten whites and broken shells of two eggs, may be added and mixed thoroughly with the warm consomme and cooked ten minutes. Let it stand five more and strain through a jelly bag. Should the liquid not jell during the night, add one-third of a box of gelatine, dissolved in cold consomme, with the eggs and lemon, and finish as directed.—Housekeeper.

AMERICAN WAYS THE BEST.

And Foreign Cumbrous and Unintelligent Ideas Should Be Guarded Against.

It is natural enough, in thinking of immigration, to dwell upon the influx of poverty and vice. Even forty years years ago the "Know-Nothings"—who took the question, so to speak, by the wrong end in wishing to refuse citizenship to all foreigners rather than to keep out undesirable citizens—were alarmed by the fact that foreign-born paupers and foreign-born criminals outnumbered the native paupers and criminals ten to one.

But there are other arguments of weight. Here is one: Foreign industrial methods are slow, heavy and mechanical; American methods are quick, ingenious, labor-saving. When we remember that already in our fifty largest manufacturing cities over forty per cent. of the workers are of foreign birth, may we not reasonably fear from a larger proportion of foreign labor the infusion of old world routine, unintelligent ways, and in the end lower productiveness and lower wages?

An instance of just the reverse of this may prove it by contrast. A great Berlin arms works was founded by a German trained in America.

He introduced the American system of working. His thousand employes are paid almost double the usual German wages. American labor-saving machines are used. As a result, the superintendent says, "It pays us well to pay this high rate of wages. It is economically the cheapest way. Best paid men produce the cheapest." Thus, intelligent skill and carefulness are at a premium.

But another result has been to insure to this firm the bitter hostility both of other employers who dare not follow the example, and of some labor unions which want good and bad workmen to be paid alike.

While we give our best wishes to this interesting trial of American methods abroad, let us be careful on our side not to adopt cumbrous and unintelligent industrial ideas from our rapidly increasing foreign labor population.—Youth's Companion.

First Things.

The first thing is to make the little sufferer comfortable. See that his pillow is not too high and is often shaken smooth; that the sheets are not crumpled, and are well tucked in at the foot of the bed. Even in health no one can be comfortable with the bedclothes untucked and working up about the ankles. How much greater is the discomfort when one is ill and the grasshopper is a burden and the roseleaf a weight! The same thing applies to the nightgown; see that it is pulled down under the child—it will not stay down, but the operation can be repeated often without injury to mother or patient.—Good Housekeeping.

Bright Faces.

One of my friends who seems to have gained the secret of perpetual youth and good spirits said to me lately: "Do you notice I always put on my sweetest, most unruffled expression when I'm in a great hurry or get caught in a crowd, a thing I detest, or whenever I want to look worried, because, most other women do look so like crazy frights in the least crisis?" It is not the great men or women who look the most borne down by responsibility and anxiety. Gladstone shows less lines of care than a woman out on a shopping excursion on "bargain day."—Kate Sanborn, in Chautauquan.